

Message Text

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CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 FEA-01 INT-05 INRE-00

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TO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN IMMEDIATE

USMISSION OECD PARIS

INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS IMMEDIATE

USDEL ASWAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 057281

TOSEC 491

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OECD, EI

SUBJECT:PROPOSED IEA MINISTERIAL MEETING, OECD MINISTERIAL

- DATES

USEC DELIVER ROBINSON, BONN DELIVER HARTMAN OOB MARCH 14

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1. US ORIGINALLY PROPOSED TO VAN LENNEP THAT OECD MINISTERIAL BE HELD MAY 27-28 (NATO MINISTERIAL IS MAY 29-30). WE ALSO PROPOSED TO IEA GOVERNMENTS THAT IEA MINISTERIAL BE HELD MARCH 26. WE INDICATED SECRETARY WOULD ATTEND BOTH MEETINGS. VAN LENNEP FORMALLY PROPOSED MAY 27-28 OECD DATES AT MARCH 4 OECD COUNCIL MEETING INDICATING THAT SEVERAL GOVERNMENTS HAD INDICATED ACCEPTANCE. CONSENSUS GROWING AMONG IEA PARTNERS IN FAVOR OF MAY 26 IEA MINISTERIAL. HOWEVER, EC FOREIGN MINISTERS DECIDED DURING MARCH 10-11 DUBLIN SUMMIT IN FAVOR OF POLITICAL COOPERATION MEETING IN DUBLIN MAY 26 AND ASKED US IF WE COULD AGREE TO MOVE IEA TO MAY 27 AND OECD TO MAY 28-29. WE HAVE AGREED TO THIS PROPOSAL SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION IEA AND OECD BODIES.

2. WE UNDERSTAND IRISH RAISED EC PROPOSAL FOR NEW DATES OF MAY 28-29 FOR OECD MINISTERIAL IN TENTATIVE WAY AT MARCH 13 OECD COUNCIL AND WERE REBUFFED BY VAN LENNEP WHO INDICATED THERE WAS CONSENSUS IN FAVOR MAY 27-28 DATES AND ASKED COUNCIL TO DECIDE ON THESE DATES. IRISH SAID EC COULD NOT AGREE AND ASKED FOR ADDITIONAL TIME. (THIS MEETING TOOK PLACE PRIOR TO EITHER US MISSION OECD OR IRISH BEING INFORMED THAT WE CAN AGREE TO NEW DATES PROPOSED BY EC SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION BY IEA AND OECD.)

3. YOU SHOULD ASK IRISH HOW EC INTENDS TO PROCEED AND MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS RE US POSITION. (1) IRISH SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT WE ARE TRYING TO BE FLEXIBLE. (2) IN ESSENCE WE CAN ACCEPT EITHER MAY 27-28 (WHICH WE PROPOSED ORIGINALLY) OR MAY 28-29 FOR OECD MINISTERIAL WITH IEA MINISTERIAL ON DAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING FIRST DAY OF OECD MINISTERIAL. (3) WHILE WE EXPECT THEM TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH US, WE LOOK TO IRISH AND EC TO TAKE THE LEAD IN WORKING OUT EITHER SET OF DATES WITH VAN LENNEP AND OTHER OECD PARTNERS. (4) FURTHERMORE, WE BELIEVE ISSUE SHOULD BE SETTLED PROMPTLY TO ENABLE SECRETARY AND OTHER FOREIGN MINISTERS AND OECD TO FIRM UP THEIR SCHEDULES.

4. OTHER OECD CAPITALS MAY DRAW ON THIS MESSAGE IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES RE US POSITION ON DATES FOR IEA AND CONFIDENTIAL

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OECD MINISTERIALS. INGERSOLL

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NNN

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